

September 12, 2021

TO: Chair Taylor, Co-Chair Bosshart-Davis & Members of the Committee on Redistricting
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

FROM: Lori Pintok-Snyder, Graphic Design and Long-Term Resident of Central Oregon (Deschutes County)/Oregonian from Birth

Bend, Oregon 97701 / Congressional District #2

SUBJECT: Redistricting Argument in Favor of Map B

ATTENTION: FOR ALL REVIEWING AUTHORITIES

1. Please accept this as my testimony on redistricting. I am a graphic designer, mother, have been a caregiver, and a respectful citizen of Oregon. I have lived in Oregon all my life. Since 1977 (44 years), I have lived and been a rural Central Oregonian. The representation of my district matters to me. Oregon's minimum wage varies in different parts of the state and there are regions that have different economic levels. Agricultural and ranching are industries in my district, unlike the Portland area. We are very different. What has been proposed for redistricting on Map A is splitting up communities.

By comparing Maps A and B for CD2 to the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) ORS 188.010. I raise the following questions:

a. ORS Don't Unnecessarily Divide Communities of Interest: Map A—How does the community of Portland have the same interests as those in Bend, Madras and Sisters. Does Madras, Culver, and Warm Springs align with growing homelessness and crime? Portland is in no way similar to Bend which is much more rural and conservative. Map B - Appears to keep Bend and North Central Oregon a part of Eastern Oregon where they have much more in commonality (like communities) than Portland or Lake Oswego.

b. Map A - How would splitting Bend into North and South Districts not constitute dividing this community and at a minimum not keep it contiguous? Bend/Redmond have a stronger commonality than Bend has with Prineville or Powell Butte. Map B - Seems to keep Deschutes County and Bend whole as one community and reduces the "donut hole."

c. Line ORS 188.010-A - Keep Each District Contiguous: Map A - How does splitting Warm Springs Nation, lumping part of Hood River, Sisters, Culver, and Wasco County in half result in a contiguous district? Does population growth warrant this? Map A - How does separating the very similar communities in Bend from the Redmond community when they are contiguous? Map B - Seems to keep Bend and Redmond together since they are contiguous. It splits Jackson County only to equalize the population as required by Oregon state ORS 181.010. line – Do Not Dilute the Voting Strength of any Language or Minority Group: Map A - How would breaking up the Warm Springs Indian Reservation not constitute dividing and thereby diluting the voting strength of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Map B - Splits Marion and Clackamas counties to keep Warm Springs whole and also keeps the Warm Springs, Umatilla, Burns, Wasco, and Klamath tribes together.

d. ORS - Districts are to be Connected by Transportation Links: Map A - Where is the transportation link between Jefferson, Wasco, or Multnomah Counties to Deschutes County? Map B - Recognizes there is no major transportation links (Interstate freeways, bus or light rail) from the Willamette Valley to Deschutes County.

ORS - No District Shall be Drawn to Favor any Political Party or Legislator: Map A - Doesn't the splitting of Bend into two North/South Districts violate geographic lines. Map A - How is splitting Portland 3 ways and spreading it into three urban districts not an example of gerrymandering to ensure a partisan majority in those districts? Map B - Seems to keep Portland and Bend in largely the same existing boundaries. For CD 2, it recognizes the natural boundary of the Cascade Mountains. Map A seems to be heavily partisan it appears to ignore the guidelines in favor of gerrymandering in order to gain more voting power. In contrast, Map B appears to more closely follow Oregon Law guidelines, keeps the natural boundary of the Cascade Mountain Range, and keeps Deschutes County whole as prescribed in ORS 188.010.

Thank you for your attention to my testimony.

Respectfully,
Lori Pintok-Snyder